



# **LECTURE 4: RECURSION AND SORTING I**

**SEHH2239 Data Structures**

# Learning Objectives:

- To read, write and apply ***recursion methods***
- To implement sorting methods of ***insertion sorts, bubble sorts*** and ***selection sorts***
- To estimate the ***time efficiency*** of the above sorting methods

# What is Recursion?

- Recursion is a problem-solving process that breaks a problem into *identical* but *smaller* problems.
- A method that calls itself is a ***recursive method***. The invocation is a ***recursive call***.
- ***Recursion vs Iteration***
  - A recursion method calls itself.
  - An iteration method contains a loop.
    - E.g. For loop, While loop.

# A Simple Example of Recursion

- Classic example--the factorial function:

$$n! = 1 \cdot 2 \cdot 3 \cdot \dots \cdot (n - 1) \cdot n$$

- Recursive definition:

$$f(n) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } n = 1 \\ n \cdot f(n-1) & \text{else} \end{cases}$$

As a Python method:

```
def factorial(x):  
    if x == 1:  
        return 1  
    else:  
        return (x * factorial(x-1))
```

# Designing Linear Recursion

1. **Base case:** we must always have some base cases, which can be solved with recursion

e.g.  $n == 0$

2. **Making progress:** for the cases that are to be solved recursively, the recursive call must always be to a case that makes progress toward a base case

e.g.  $n - 1$

## □ Test for base cases

- Begin by testing for a set of base cases (there should be *at least one*).
- Every possible chain of recursive calls **must** eventually reach a base case, and the handling of each base case should not use recursion.

# Tracing a Recursive Method

```
def calcFactorial(n):  
    if n == 1:  
        return 1  
    else:  
        return n * calcFactorial(n - 1)
```

```
def calcFactorial(n):  
    if n == 1:  
        return 1  
    else:  
        return n * calcFactorial(n - 1)
```

```
def calcFactorial(n):  
    if n == 1:  
        return 1  
    else:  
        return n * calcFactorial(n - 1)
```

$3 * ( 2 * 1 )$

```
def calcFactorial(n):  
    if n == 1:  
        return 1  
    else:  
        return n * calcFactorial(n - 1)
```

$2 * ( 1 )$

```
def calcFactorial(n):  
    if n == 1:  
        return 1  
    else:  
        return n * calcFactorial(n - 1)
```

# Example of Linear Recursion (for further reading)

Algorithm `linearSum(A, n)`:

Input:

Array, A, of integers

Integer n such that

$$0 \leq n \leq |A|$$

Output:

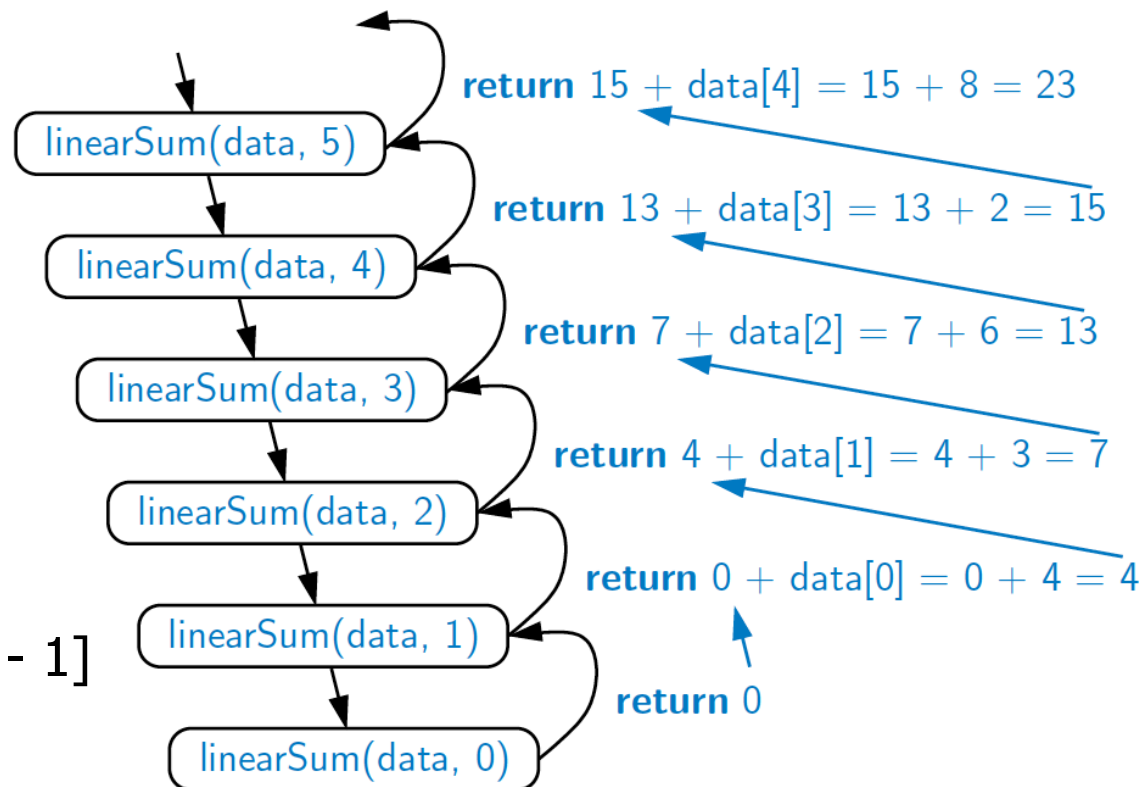
Sum of the first n integers in A

if  $n = 0$  then  
return 0

else  
return

`linearSum(A, n - 1) + A[n - 1]`

Recursion trace of `linearSum(data, 5)`  
called on array `data = [4, 3, 6, 2, 8]`



# Reversing an Array (for further reading)

Algorithm **reverseArray**(A, i, j):

Input: An array A and nonnegative integer indices i and j

Output: The reversal of the elements in A starting at index i and ending at j

if  $i < j$  then

    Swap A[i] and A[j]

    reverseArray(A, i + 1, j - 1)

return





# **COMPARING DATA ITEMS**

# Equality: “is” and “==”

- Both “is” and “==” are used for object comparison in Python.
- “==” compares values of two objects,
- “is” checks if two objects are same
  - i.e. two references to same object.

```
a = [1, 2, 3]
```

```
b = [1, 2, 3]
```

```
print(id(a))
```

```
print(id(b))
```

140031399513936

140031399518448

```
# "is" operator
```

```
if a is b:
```

```
    print("Same objects")
```

```
else:
```

```
    print("Different objects")
```

Different objects

# “is” and “==”

- Further Examples

```
# "==" operator
if a == b:
    print("Same value")
else:
    print("Not the same value")
```

Same value

```
c = b
if c is b:
    print("Same objects")
else:
    print("Different objects")
```

Same objects

```
d = list(a)
print(d is a)
print(d == a)
```

False

True



# **COMPARING OBJECTS IN CLASS**

# Object Equal

- Python automatically calls the `__eq__` method of a class when you use the `==` operator to compare the instances of the class.

```
class Student:
    def __init__(self, name, age, mark):
        self.name = name
        self.age = age
        self.dsa_score = mark

    def __eq__(self, other):
        return self.dsa_score == other.dsa_score
```

```
joe = Student("Joe Elipse", 20, 80)
pally = Student("Pally Kueng", 30, 75)
martin = Student("Martin Ip", 25, 75)
```

```
print(joe == pally)           False
print(pally == martin)       True
```

# Overloaded behaviour of operators

- Python has magic methods to define overloaded behaviour of operators.
- The comparison operators (<, <=, >, >=, == and !=) can be overloaded by providing definition to `__lt__`, `__le__`, `__gt__`, `__ge__`, `__eq__` and `__ne__` magic methods

```
class Student2:
    def __init__(self, name, age, mark):
        self.name = name
        self.age = age
        self.dsa_score = mark

    def __eq__(self, other):
        if isinstance(other, Student2):
            return self.dsa_score == other.dsa_score

    def __lt__(self, other):
        if isinstance(other, Student2):
            return self.dsa_score < other.dsa_score

    def __le__(self, other):
        if isinstance(other, Student2):
            return self.dsa_score <= other.dsa_score
```

```
operator.__lt__(a, b)
operator.__le__(a, b)
operator.__eq__(a, b)
operator.__ne__(a, b)
operator.__ge__(a, b)
operator.__gt__(a, b)
```

# Overloaded behaviour of operators

```
joey = Student2("Joey See", 20, 80)
cally = Student2("Cally Peng", 30, 75)
tom = Student2("Tom Miu", 25, 75)

print(joey == cally)           False
print(cally == tom)           True
print(joey < cally)           False
print(cally < tom)            False

print(joey <= cally)           False
print(cally <= tom)           True
```



# **SORTING I**



# What is Sorting?

- Sorting means to put data in order.
- **Ascending** from lowest to highest
- **Descending** from highest to lowest
- E.g. Rearrange  $a[0], a[1], \dots, a[n-1]$  into ascending order. When done,  $a[0] \leq a[1] \leq \dots \leq a[n-1]$
- 8, 6, 9, 4, 3  $\Rightarrow$  3, 4, 6, 8, 9

# Sorting Algorithms

- A sorting algorithm is used to rearrange a given array or list elements according to a comparison operator on the elements.
- Simple Sorting Algorithms:
  - Insertion Sort
  - Selection Sort
  - Bubble Sort



# **INSERTION SORT**

# Algorithm of insertion sort

For each  $a[i]$  in an array  $a$  of size  $n$ ,

- Compare  $a[i]$  with all elements in the sorted sub-list
- Shift all the elements in the sorted sub-list that  $> a[i]$
- Insert  $a[i]$  to the place

# Insert An Element

## Insert

- Given a sorted list/sequence, insert a new element
- E.g. Given 3, 6, 9, 14 and Insert 5
  - Result 3, 5, 6, 9, 14

Steps:

Compare new element (5) and last one (14)

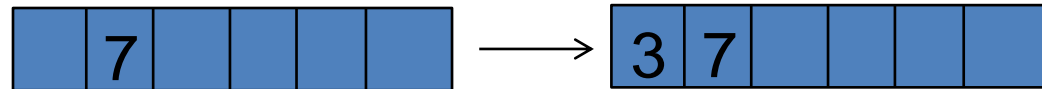
- Shift 14 right to get 3, 6, 9, , 14
- Shift 9 right to get 3, 6, , 9, 14
- Shift 6 right to get 3, , 6, 9, 14
- Insert 5 to get 3, 5, 6, 9, 14

# Insertion Sort

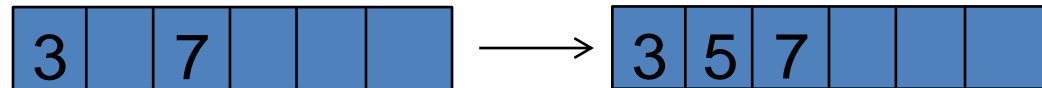
- Sort 7, 3, 5, 6, 1, 8



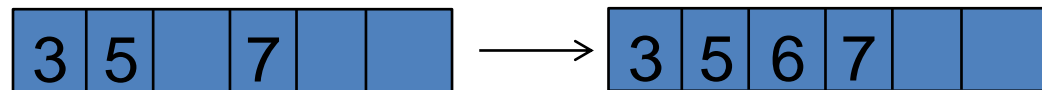
- Start with 7 and insert 3  $\Rightarrow$  3, 7



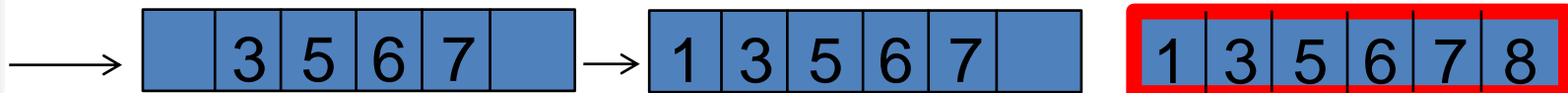
- Insert 5  $\Rightarrow$  3, 5, 7



- Insert 6  $\Rightarrow$  3, 5, 6, 7



- Insert 1  $\Rightarrow$  1, 3, 5, 6, 7



# Insertion Sort in Python

```
def insertionSort(arr):  
    # Traverse through 1 to len(arr)  
    for i in range(1, len(arr)):  
  
        key = arr[i]  
  
        # Move elements of arr[0..i-1], that are  
        # greater than key, to one position ahead  
        # of their current position  
        j = i-1  
        while j >= 0 and key < arr[j] :  
            arr[j + 1] = arr[j]  
            j -= 1  
        arr[j + 1] = key  
  
    # Driver code to test above  
    arr = [12, 11, 13, 5, 6]  
    insertionSort(arr)  
    for i in range(len(arr)):  
  
        print ("% d" % arr[i])
```

*# This code is contributed by Mohit Kumra*



# BUBBLE SORT



# Algorithm of Bubble Sort

1. In an array  $a$  of size  $n$ , if  $a[i-1] > a[i]$ , swap  $a[i-1]$  with  $a[i]$  for  $i=1, 2, 3, \dots, n-1$ . This is called a Bubbling Pass
2. After each bubbling pass, the largest element moves to the right-most position
3. Then, perform bubbling pass for the remaining  $n-1$  elements,  $a[0] \dots a[n-2]$ , and obtain the largest at  $a[n-2]$
4. And so on until performing bubbling pass for the remaining 2 elements and obtaining the largest at  $a[1]$

# Bubble Sort

## First Bubbling Pass

- Sort 6, 5, 8, 4, 3, 1
- $6 > 5$ , swap 6 and 5  $\Rightarrow$  5, 6, 8, 4, 3, 1
- $6 < 8$ , no swap  $\Rightarrow$  5, 6, 8, 4, 3, 1
- $8 > 4$ , swap 8 and 4  $\Rightarrow$  5, 6, 4, 8, 3, 1
- $8 > 3$ , swap 8 and 3  $\Rightarrow$  5, 6, 4, 3, 8, 1
- $8 > 1$ , swap 8 and 1  $\Rightarrow$  5, 6, 4, 3, 1, 8
- After the **1<sup>st</sup> pass**, the largest element 8 moves to the right-most position

# Bubble Sort

## Second Bubbling Pass

- Sort the remaining 5, 6, 4, 3, 1
- $5 < 6$ , no swap  $\Rightarrow$  5, 6, 4, 3, 1
- $6 > 4$ , swap 6 and 4  $\Rightarrow$  5, 4, 6, 3, 1
- $6 > 3$ , swap 6 and 3  $\Rightarrow$  5, 4, 3, 6, 1
- $6 > 1$ , swap 6 and 1  $\Rightarrow$  5, 4, 3, 1, 6
- After the **2<sup>nd</sup> pass**, the largest element 6 moves to the right-most position

# Bubble Sort

## Keep on Bubbling

- After the **3<sup>rd</sup> pass**, the largest element 5 moves to the right-most position, and the result is: 4, 3, 1, **5**
- After the **4<sup>th</sup> pass**, the result is: 3, 1, **4**
- After the **5<sup>th</sup> pass**, the result is: 1, **3**
- At the **6<sup>th</sup> pass**, one element remains, that is, **1**
- Combining  $a[0]=1$ ,  $a[1]=3$ , ...  $a[5]=8$  to get the sorted array **1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8**.

# Bubble Sort

```
def bubble_sort(our_list):  
    # We go through the list as many times as there are elements  
    for i in range(len(our_list)):  
        # We want the last pair of adjacent elements to be (n-2, n-1)  
        for j in range(len(our_list) - 1):  
            if our_list[j] > our_list[j+1]:  
                # Swap  
                our_list[j], our_list[j+1] = our_list[j+1], our_list[j]
```

```
our_list = [19, 13, 6, 2, 18, 8]  
bubble_sort(our_list)  
print(our_list)
```

# Early-Terminating Bubble Sort

## Bubble Sort

- Sort 6, 1, 2, 5, 3, 4
- 1<sup>st</sup> pass => 1, 2, 5, 3, 4, 6
- 2<sup>nd</sup> pass => 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
- 3<sup>rd</sup> pass, no swap => 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
- 4<sup>th</sup> pass, no swap => 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
- 5<sup>th</sup> pass, no swap => 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 No need after this point
- 6<sup>th</sup> pass, no swap => 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
- Terminate and get the sorted list

## Early-Terminating Bubble Sort

- ▲ Sort 6, 1, 2, 5, 3, 4
- ▲ 1<sup>st</sup> pass => 1, 2, 5, 3, 4, 6
- ▲ 2<sup>nd</sup> pass => 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
- ▲ 3<sup>rd</sup> pass, no swap => 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
- ▲ Terminate and get sorted list



# Early-Terminating Bubble Sort

- If a bubbling pass results in no swaps, then the array is in sorted order and no further bubbling passes are necessary.
- *Note: It needs a pass for the checking of order*

# Early-Terminating Bubble Sort

```
def bubble_sort_earlyterm(our_list):  
    has_swapped = True  
  
    num_of_iterations = 0  
  
    while(has_swapped):  
        has_swapped = False  
        for i in range(len(our_list) - num_of_iterations - 1):  
            if our_list[i] > our_list[i+1]:  
                # Swap  
                our_list[i], our_list[i+1] = our_list[i+1], our_list[i]  
                has_swapped = True  
            num_of_iterations += 1  
  
our_list = [19, 13, 6, 2, 18, 8]  
bubble_sort_earlyterm(our_list)  
print(our_list)
```





# **SELECTION SORT**

# Algorithm of Selection Sort

1. In an array  $a$  of size  $n$ , determine the largest element and swap the largest with the last element  $a[n-1]$
2. Then, determine the largest of the remaining  $n-1$  elements,  $a[0] \dots a[n-2]$ , and swap that largest with  $a[n-2]$
3. And so on until determining the largest of the remaining 2 elements and swap the largest with  $a[1]$

# Selection Sort

- Sort 6, 5, 8, 4, 3, 1
- Largest is 8, swap with 1 => 6, 5, 1, 4, 3, 8
- Sort 6, 5, 1, 4, 3
- Largest is 6, swap with 3 => 3, 5, 1, 4, 6, 8
- Sort 3, 5, 1, 4
- Largest is 5, swap with 4 => 3, 4, 1, 5, 6, 8
- Sort 3, 4, 1
- Largest is 4, swap with 1 => 3, 1, 4, 5, 6, 8
- Sort 3, 1
- Largest is 3, swap with 1 => 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8

# Selection Sort

```
def selection_sort(L):
```

```
    # i indicates how many items were sorted
```

```
    for i in range(len(L)-1):
```

```
        # To find the minimum value of the unsorted segment
```

```
        # We first assume that the first element is the lowest
```

```
        min_index = i
```

```
        # We then use j to loop through the remaining elements
```

```
        for j in range(i+1, len(L)-1):
```

```
            # Update the min_index if the element at j is lower than it
```

```
            if L[j] < L[min_index]:
```

```
                min_index = j
```

```
        # After finding the lowest item of the unsorted regions, swap with the first unsorted item
```

```
        L[i], L[min_index] = L[min_index], L[i]
```

```
L = [3, 1, 41, 59, 26, 53, 59] print(L)
```

```
selection_sort(L) # Let's see the list after we run
```

```
the Selection Sort print(L)
```

# Early-Terminating Selection Sort

- **Shortcoming:** iteration keeps on even if the elements have been sorted
- Use Early-Terminating Selection Sort to eliminate unnecessary iterations
- In Early-Terminating Selection Sort, during the scan for the largest element, it checks to see whether the array is already sorted or not

# Summary on Key terms

- **Recursion**
- **Insertion sort**
- **Bubble sort**
  - Early-Terminating
- **Selection sort**